



**Merced County Sheriff's Office  
Coroner Division**

455 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street  
Merced, CA 95341-6213

**Vernon H. Warnke**  
Sheriff-Coroner

**Mark A. Super, MD**  
Forensic Pathologist

**REPORT OF AUTOPSY**

AUTOPSY ☒

EXTERNAL EXAMINATION ☐

**DECEDENT: CARDOZA, FABIAN**

**CORONER CASE #: 18 - 29240**

**DATE/TIME OF DEATH: 06/18/2018 @ 13.13**

**INVESTIGATOR: J. Arguelles**

**DATE OF EXAMINATION: 06/19/2018**

**TIME OF EXAM: 09:45**

**AGE: 20**

**SEX: Male**

**HEIGHT: 65 in.**

**WEIGHT: 189 lb.**

**AUTOPSY FINDINGS**

1. Evidence of asphyxia by strangulation.
  - a. Ligature mark on neck that is essentially horizontal.
  - b. Bilateral fine scleral and conjunctival petechiae.
  - c. Florid periorbital and facial cutaneous petechiae.
  - d. Rare petechiae on inner surface of lower lip.
  - e. Fracture of hyoid bone.
  - f. Generalized visceral congestion by non-clotted blood.
  - g. History of being strangled by braided bed sheet ligature.
2. Heavy, congested, and edematous lungs (right - 680 grams, left - 630 grams).
3. Postmortem toxicology: elevated blood levels of methamphetamine + metabolite; negative for ethanol and all tested medications.

**CAUSE OF DEATH: Asphyxia by strangulation.**

Date

8-16-18

Mark A. Super, MD  
Forensic Pathologist

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF/CORONER  
CONTROLLED DOCUMENT  
NOT TO BE DUPLICATED.

**WITNESSES:**

Detectives Sgt. S. Becerra, V. Bonilla and M. Martinez, Merced S.O.  
Deputy Coroners J. Arguelles, L. Garcia, and G. Escobar, Merced S.O.

**AUTOPSY ASSISTANTS:**

Deputy Coroners L. Garcia and G. Escobar.

**IDENTIFICATION:**

The body is received encased in a white plastic body bag locked with coroner's seal #0002981. A coroner's ID bar code sticker is attached to the outside of the bag, labeled with the subject's name and case number. White paper bags have been previously placed on the hands, secured by drawstrings.

Photographs will be taken of the decedent and fingerprints will be obtained.

**EVIDENCE OF MEDICAL INTERVENTION:**

A white sheet is lying over the lower torso and legs. This is not retained. Disposable defibrillator pads are adhered to the right pectoral area and left chest wall.

**CLOTHING:**

The following clothing items are on or about the body.

1. White socks. No significant stains or defects.
2. Canvas jailhouse pants that are black and white striped. These are pushed down just below the hips. A smudged gray stain is on the left knee area. No significant defects.
3. Gray gym trunks are in place, but bunched up at the crotch. These are faintly urine stained. No defects. There are a few small wear holes on the fronts of both pant legs.
4. White boxer shorts are in place. These are urine stained at the crotch. No significant defects.
5. A cutaway orange jailhouse sweatshirt has been pushed aside exposing the anterior torso. The right sleeve is pushed up to the elbow. No significant stains or defects.
6. A cutaway white undershirt that is pushed aside exposing the anterior torso. The garment is bunched up in the back and at the armpits. No significant stains or defects.

**LIGATURE:**

A braided ligature composed of a white bed sheet accompanies the body in an evidence bag that has been sealed. Examination reveals a segment of ligature that ends in two short loops that are approximately 6 cm in diameter. Between them is a slipknot through which is a second segment of ligature that has been cut away that, apparently, was around the neck. This ligature averages 0.7 cm in width.

**EXTERNAL EXAMINATION**

The clothed, unembalmed body is that of a normally developed, adequately nourished, Hispanic male who appears consistent with reported age of 20 years. The body measures 65 inches long and weighs 169 pounds, after removal of clothing and medical appliances. Rigor mortis is absent in the jaw and arms, but still present in the legs. Lividity is prominent and posterior except over pressure points. Spot-like hemorrhages involve areas of intense lividity on the left base of the neck. The face is generally congested and mildly plethoric. The body is cold.

The scalp hair is black, curly and cropped short, averaging approximately 3 cm long. There is mild frontal balding. Facial hair consists of a short black mustache and beard. Fine petechiae are on the face, primarily the mid-forehead, cheeks and periorbital areas. Blood is dried about the nares extending onto the right side of the face. A single tattooed dot is below the right eye. A tattoo of 3 dots is below the left eye. The irides are brown and the corneas are filmy. There are a few fine petechiae in both sclerae, right > left, and there are bilateral but somewhat rare, fine lower conjunctival petechiae. The ears, nose and mouth are free of foreign material. The nasal skeleton and facial bones are palpably intact. The lips are uninjured. There are rare petechiae on the inner surface of the lower lip. The teeth are natural and in fair condition with a thin gap between the upper central incisors. The earlobes are each remotely pierced x1. The skin behind both ears is intensely congested with a few spot-like hemorrhages. Behind the left ear is a 1 cm abrasion, opposed by a smaller abrasion on the posterior left ear.

The neck is mobile, but symmetric. There is a prominent ligature mark on the neck. This mark extends horizontally across the anterior mid-line below the level of the laryngeal notch. The mark angles only slightly upward as it crosses the right side of the neck passing within 4.5 cm of the right earlobe. On the right side of the neck, the mark consists of a vague band-like zone of pallor within which are two parchment-colored furrows separated by a central thin, red-purple pinch mark resulting in a track-like mark that averages 2 cm wide. The superior of the three marks is broken up into small segments that are separated by 0.5 cm zones of sparing, giving it a somewhat dotted appearance. On the right anterior neck, below the ligature mark is a vertical linear abrasion, 2.5 cm long. The mark on the left side of the neck angles slightly downward passing within 6 cm of the left earlobe. The mark on the left side of the neck consists of 2 somewhat horizontal blanched marks that focally have a parchment yellow-brown color. The blanched lines average 0.8 cm in thickness. Separating the 2 blanched marks is an area of intense congestion and focal hemorrhage. These two blanched marks converge on the left posterior neck. On the skin below the ligature mark on the left are numerous spot-like hemorrhages. There are no significant abrasions or contusions above or below the ligature mark. On the back of the neck, the ligature mark angles upward from lower left to upper right. The mark converges into a single blanched mark, 1cm wide that has focal parchment yellow-brown coloration.

The chest is stable and symmetric. No palpable subcutaneous emphysema. On the left pectoral area is a monochromatic tattoo of the name ALLYSON. The abdomen is mildly scaphoid and soft. There is a moderate amount of dark body hair on the anterior torso. No abdominal surgical scars. The external genitalia are those of an uncircumcised adult male with bilaterally descended testes.

The extremities are symmetric, without angularity or deformity. The fingernails are uninjured, extending to and slightly beyond the fingertips. The fingernails are neatly kept. The nail beds are markedly cyanotic. No clubbing of the digits. On the knuckles of the right hand are numerous irregular remote scars that are mostly semi-ovoid marks, up to 1.5 cm. On the back of the right hand is a monochromatic tattoo of the name JAKUB. No hesitation-type scars on the wrists. No needle tracks. On the lateral left elbow is a cross-shaped amateur tattoo. On the back of the left hand, between the thumb and index finger is an amateur tattoo of 3 dots. On the ventral left wrist is a monochromatic tattoo of the name SABRINA. The legs show no evidence of peripheral edema. On the lateral left heel is a 0.5 cm abrasion. The toenails are not dystrophic.

The posterior torso and anus are unremarkable, except for a prominent pattern of lividity on the upper back and posterior neck that has irregular blanched marks attributed to bedding.

### INTERNAL EXAMINATION

#### **HEAD:**

The scalp is reflected after making the usual intermastoid incision and is free of subcutaneous or subgaleal hemorrhages. The calvarium is intact. No epidural or subdural hemorrhage. The brain weighs 1450 grams and is of the usual configuration covered by congested, but glistening and transparent leptomeninges with clear cerebrospinal fluid. The brain appears mildly swollen with slightly flattened gyri. No coning or herniation. The vessels at the base of the brain pursue their usual anatomic courses and are patent throughout, without significant atherosclerosis, thrombosis or aneurysms. Recent or remote traumatic lesions or other abnormalities are not noted on serial coronal sectioning in the fresh state, except for mottled, dusky red-purple discoloration of the cortical gray ribbon. The gray-white interfaces are generally distinct. No intracerebral hemorrhages, masses, or abscesses. No cortical contusion hemorrhages. The ventricular system is symmetric and free of blood. No lesions are seen in the mid-brain, brainstem or cerebellum. The bones at the base of the skull are without evidence of fracture. The atlanto-occipital membrane is intact.

#### **NECK:**

The neck is dissected in layers revealing no superficial or deep anterior cervical soft tissue hemorrhage, except for a 1 cm spot-like hemorrhage in the soft tissue over the hyoid bone in the anterior mid-line. This is associated with a very superficial depressed fracture of the outer table of the bone. The greater horns of the hyoid bone are all intact. The hyoid bone and laryngeal cartilages are normally formed with flexible laryngeal cartilages but immobile hyoid joints. Both greater horns of the larynx are fractured, but without associated fresh hemorrhage. The fractures are at the base of the greater horns. The larynx and trachea are unobstructed and lined by hyperemic, red-brown mucosa. No mucosal edema or petechiae. The cervical spine is intact. No anterior prevertebral fascia hemorrhage.

**BODY CAVITIES:**

The body cavities are entered in the usual manner. Testing for free air in the pleural cavities is negative. All cavities are free of excess or abnormal fluid accumulations or adhesions. The organs are in their usual anatomic locations. The lungs are expanded. Serosal surfaces are generally smooth and glistening.

**CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM:**

The heart weighs 360 grams and is of the usual configuration covered by smooth glistening epicardium. No epicardial peblechia. Serial sections show congested and slightly softened, red-brown fibrillar myocardium without recent or remote infarcts. The heart walls are not thickened. The endocardium is thin and translucent. The heart valves are normally formed, pliable and intact. No vegetations. The coronary ostia are in their usual locations and are patent. The coronary circulation is right dominant. The coronary arteries are free of atherosclerosis and are patent throughout, without thrombosis. The aorta is intact and exhibits hemolytic staining of the smooth intima. No atherosclerotic plaques. No complicated plaques or aneurysm. The vena cava and pulmonary arteries are free of antemortem thrombus. The heart and great vessels are distended by fluid blood.

**RESPIRATORY SYSTEM:**

The lung weights are: Right - 680 grams; Left - 630 grams. The right lung has a four-lobed architecture, while the left lung has three lobes. The pleural surfaces are smooth and glistening, with minimal anthracotic pigmentation. Sections show moderately congested, red-brown cut surfaces that ooze a moderate amount of frothy serosanguinous fluid, especially from non-dependent areas. Dependent areas are relatively atelectatic and intensely congested. No focal intrapulmonary lesions. The tracheobronchial tree is lined by markedly hyperemic, red-brown mucosa, but is unobstructed and without mass lesions.

**LIVER AND PANCREAS:**

The liver weighs 1490 grams and is covered by a smooth intact capsular surface with sharp anterior margins. Sections show congested red-brown cut surfaces with mottled areas of yellow-tan color that display the usual lobular architecture. No focal intraparenchymal lesions. I can easily pass my thumb through 2 cm thick sections. The gallbladder contains approximately 5 ml of thin green-brown bile and the gallbladder mucosa is unremarkable. The bile passages appear patent. No stones. No portal lymphadenopathy. The pancreas is generally and intensely congested, but free of frank hemorrhages, masses, or fat necrosis.

**GASTROINTESTINAL SYSTEM:**

The tongue is without evident injury. The pharynx is unobstructed. The esophagus is intact and lined by unremarkable gray-tan mucosa. The stomach contains approximately 15 ml of pale, pink-tan mucoid fluid without identifiable food fragments, pill material or peculiar scent. The gastric mucosa is intact and gray-tan, without ulcers or masses. The duodenum and the remainder of the small and large bowels are without evident mucosal abnormality. The colon contains soft formed green-brown feces and is free of blood. No colonic ulcers, hemorrhages or masses. The appendix is present.

**SPLEEN AND LYMPH NODES:**

The spleen weighs 160 grams and is covered by an intact blue-gray capsule. Sections show congested and slightly softened, red-brown parenchyma without focal lesions. No enlargement of mediastinal, lung hilar, mesenteric or para-aortic lymph nodes.

**ENDOCRINE SYSTEM:**

The adrenal glands have the usual thin golden-yellow cortices surrounding thin red medullary centers. No cortical masses or medullary hemorrhages. The thyroid gland is of the usual size, shape and consistency. No thyroid cysts or masses. The pituitary gland is unremarkable. The thyroid gland is not injured.

**UROGENITAL SYSTEM:**

The kidneys are of similar size and shape. The kidney weights are: Right - 140 grams, Left - 150 grams. The capsules strip with ease to reveal smooth cortical surfaces, persistent fetal lobation and intense renal congestion. Sections show uniform cortical thickness with distinct cortico-medullary junctions. The calices, pelves and ureters are unremarkable. The bladder contains 120 ml of clear, pale yellow urine. The bladder mucosa is unremarkable. The prostate gland is not enlarged.

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**MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM:**

The red-brown muscle is firm and without focal non-traumatic abnormalities. No visible or palpable fractures of the bony thorax, vertebral column, pelvis or long bones of the extremities. The abdominal fat averages 4 cm in thickness.

**TOXICOLOGY:**

Samples of peripheral blood, urine, vitreous humor, liver, and gastric contents are retained.

**HISTOLOGY:**

None. Sections of all major viscera are retained in stock.

**PHOTOGRAPHS:**

Digital photographs are obtained of external and some internal findings.

**X-RAYS:**

None.

**EVIDENCE:**

DNA blood spot cards are obtained. Fingernail clippings and samples of head hair are obtained.

**END:** 11:40.

MAS/mc

CVT-18-8367

**Case Name:**

Cardoza,

**TOXICOLOGY NUMBER:**

Fabian

**Specimen Description:**

12 ml peripheral blood (2 gray top vials), 1.25 ml vitreous humor, 18 ml gastric, 3.25 ml urine & liver tissue each labeled "Cardoza, Fabian; CA0240000; 2018-00029240; 60651; MAS"

**Delivered by**

Tricor

**Date**

20-Jun-18

**Received by**

Bill Posey

**Date**

20-Jun-18

**Request:**

Complete Drug Screen

**Agency Case #**

18-29240

**Requesting Agency**

Merced County Sheriff/Coroner  
455 E. 13th  
Merced CA 95340

**Report To**

Merced County Sheriff/Coroner  
455 E. 13th  
Merced CA 95340

Specimen: Peripheral Blood Sample

**RESULTS**

Complete Drug Screen: Methamphetamine detected.

No other common acidic, neutral or basic drugs detected.

No Ethyl Alcohol detected.

d-Methamphetamine = 0.09 mg/L

d-Amphetamine = 0.02 mg/L

**Blood Methamphetamine Ranges**


Effective Level: (0.01 - 0.05 mg/L)

Potentially Toxic: (0.2 - 5 mg/L)

**Blood Amphetamine Ranges**

Effective Level: (0.02 - 0.15 mg/L)

Potentially Toxic: (0.2 mg/L)

  
B. I. Posey

June 26, 2018

**B.I. POSEY**  
**D.N. KIMBLE**  
Directors

1580 Tollhouse Road  
Clovis, California 93611  
Phone (559) 323-9940  
Fax (559) 323-7502



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/26/2019 14:19  
Login ID: co/sh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Case

Case Number: 2018-00029240  
Location: 700 W 22ND ST  
MERCED  
Reporting Officer ID: SH0291 -  
ARGUELLES

Incident Type: SC1144  
Occurred From: 06/18/2018 13:13  
Occurred Thru: 06/18/2018 13:13  
Disposition: NO FOLLOW UP  
Disposition Date: 09/16/2018  
Reported Date: 06/18/2018 13:42 Monday

### Offenses

No.	Group/ORI	Crime Code	Statute	Description	Counts
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### Subjects

Type	No.	Name	Address	Phone	Race	Sex	DOB/Age
ADDITIONAL OFFICER	1	MARTINEZ, MCSO					
DECEASED	1	CARDOZA, FABIAN ISAIAH	AV MODESTO, CA 95350			MALE	06/14/1998 20
NEXT OF KIN	1	CARDOZA, BOBBY ALLEN	ST SALIDA, CA 95368			MALE	50
NEXT OF KIN	2	PRAK, ALLYSON SAVANNAH	DR MODESTO, CA 95357			FEMALE	

### Arrests

Arrest No.	Name	Address	Date/Time	Type	Age
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### Property



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: colsh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

Date	Code	Type	Make	Model	Description	Tag No.	Item No.
06/20/2018	SAFEKEEPING	MISCELLANEOUS			BAG OF MISC PERS ITEMS	60875	1
06/20/2018	SAFEKEEPING	MISCELLANEOUS			CK FOR \$75.90	60874	1
06/20/2018	SAFEKEEPING	MISCELLANEOUS			WHITE CHAIN WITH CROSS	60873	1
06/20/2018	SAFEKEEPING	MISCELLANEOUS			CDL Y4106787	60872	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			PHOTO CD	60895	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			HAIR SAMPLE	60881	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			PAIR WHITE SOCKS	60880	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			GREY SHORTS	60879	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			WHITE BOXERS	60878	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			JAIL PANTS	60877	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			WHITE TEE SHIRT	60876	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			FINGERNAIL CLIPPINGS	60875	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			RT HANDBAG	60874	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			LT HANDBAG	60872	1
06/19/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			ORANGE SWEATSHIRT	60870	1
06/18/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			AUTOPSY TISSUE	60853	1
06/18/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			TOXICOLOGY	60851	1
06/18/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			DNA CARD 2	60849	1
06/18/2018	EVIDENCE	MISCELLANEOUS			DNA CARD 1	60848	1
06/19/2018	CORONER	DECEDENT			CARDOZA, FABIAN 5/14/98	60846	1

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/20/2018 14:31	Type: Intake	SH0084-MIKE RUIZ		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60875			
	Remarks:				
06/21/2018 14:38	Type: Release	SH0295-MARK MORTON		EATON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME	
	Code: CORONER REL TO FH				
	Tag Number:	60875			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:	CORY COLLINS			





## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: colsh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/20/2018 14:29	Type: Intake	SH0084-MIKE RUIZ		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60874			
	Remarks:				
06/21/2018 14:38	Type: Release	SH0295-MARK MORTON		EATON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME	
	Code: CORONER REL TO FH				
	Tag Number:	60874			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:	CORY COLLINS			

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/20/2018 14:28	Type: Intake	SH0084-MIKE RUIZ		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60873			
	Remarks:				
06/21/2018 14:36	Type: Release	SH0295-MARK MORTON		EATON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME	
	Code: CORONER REL TO FH				
	Tag Number:	60873			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:	CORY COLLINS			

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/20/2018 14:28	Type: Intake	SH0084-MIKE RUIZ		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60872			
	Remarks:				
06/21/2018 14:38	Type: Release	SH0295-MARK MORTON		EATON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME	
	Code: CORONER REL TO FH				
	Tag Number:	60872			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:	CORY COLLINS			

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 12:01	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60695			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60695			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: co\sh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:23	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60681			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60681			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:19	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60680			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60680			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:17	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60678			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60679			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:16	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60678			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60678			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: colsh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:14	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60677			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60677			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:13	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60676			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60676			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:11	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60675			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60675			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:10	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60674			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60674			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: co\sh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:09	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60672			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60672			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/19/2018 10:07	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60670			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60670			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

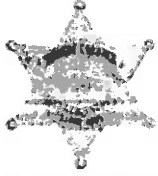
Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/18/2018 15:37	Type: Intake	SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60653			
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/18/2018 15:34	Type: Intake	SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60651			
	Remarks:				
06/18/2018 14:05	Type: Release	SH0661-DANIELLE OLIVEIRA		CENTRAL VALLEY TOXICOLOGY	
	Code: SENT TO TOX LAB				
	Tag Number:	60651			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/18/2018 15:29	Type: Intake	SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60649			
	Remarks:				



## Case Report Summary

Print Date/Time: 01/28/2019 14:19  
Login ID: colsh0084  
Case Number: 2018-00029240

MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
ORI Number: CA0240000

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/18/2018 15:28	Type: Intake	SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60648			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0477-MARTHA MARTINEZ	
	Code: CORONER REL TO INV AGENCY				
	Tag Number:	60648			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				

### Chain of Custody

Date	Transaction	From	From Role	To	To Role
06/18/2018 15:27	Type: Intake	SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA		SH0625-LUCIA GARCIA	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Remarks:				
06/18/2018 16:00	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: XRAY				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				
06/18/2018 16:30	Type: Intake	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 09:15	Type: Release	SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES		SH0377-MARK SUPER	
	Code: AUTOPSY				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:				
06/19/2018 12:03	Type: Intake	SH0377-MARK SUPER		SH0291-JOHN ARGUELLES	
	Code: INITIAL				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Remarks:				
06/21/2018 14:38	Type: Release	SH0295-MARK MORTON		EATON FAMILY FUNERAL HOME	
	Code: CORONER REL TO FH				
	Tag Number:	60646			
	Expected Return Date:				
	Remarks:	CORY COLLINS			

### Vehicles

No.	Role	Vehicle Type	Year Make	Model	Color	License Plate	State
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## **CORONER REPORT 1**

### **REPORTABLE CRITERIA:**

**THE DECEDENTS DEATH WAS THE RESULT OF STRANGULATION.**

### **DATE/TIME REPORTED:**

**06/18/2018: 1342**

### **INVESTIGATING AGENCY:**

**MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE REPORT NUMBER 18-29196, DETECTIVE M MARTINEZ (D-49)**

### **NARRATIVE:**

**DEPUTY CORONER L GARCIA (5722) AND I RESPONDED TO THE MERCED COUNTY MAIN JAIL, 700 WEST 22ND STREET, MERCED TO TAKE A CORONER'S REPORT AT THE REQUEST OF THE MERCED COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. WE ARRIVED AND WERE INFORMED BY MCSO SGT S BECCERA THAT THE DECEDENT IDENTIFIED AS FABIAN CARDOZA, AGE 20 HAD BEEN ATTACKED BY TWO INMATES IN THE SHOWER AREA OF A COMMON AREA OF A GROUP JAIL CELL, WITH ONE HOLDING THE DECEDENT DOWN ON THE FLOOR AND THE OTHER USING AN IMPROVISED LIGATURE MADE FROM BED SHEETS TO FORM A NOOSE WHICH HE USED TO STRANGLE THE DECEDENT. THE DECEDENT WAS PLACED IN HIS BED BY THE INMATES INVOLVED. THE INCIDENT, WHICH WAS DOCUMENTED ON JAIL VIDEO ACTUALLY OCCURRED ON 06/17/2018 AT APPROXIMATELY 1231 HOURS BUT THE DECEDENT WAS FOUND UNRESPONSIVE WITH SIGNS OF RIGOR AND LIVIDITY PRESENT LYING IN HIS BUNK THIS AFTERNOON AT APPROXIMATELY 1300 HOURS. 911 WAS ACTIVATED.**

**RIGGS AMBULANCE SERVICE PARAMEDIC S EIRICH RESPONDED TO THE CELL AND UPON SEEING OBVIOUS SIGNS OF DEATH CEASED THE RESUSCITATION ATTEMPT INITIATED BY JAIL MEDICAL STAFF AT 1313 HOURS (REFER TO THE MCSO INVESTIGATIVE RECORD FOR FURTHER DETAILS).**

**WE BEGAN OUR CORONER' INVESTIGATION BY TAKING MULTIPLE DIGITAL PHOTOGRAHS OF THE DECEDENT AND THE INTERIOR OF THE CELL. THE ONLY AREA OF TRAUMA FOUND WAS THE LIGATURE INDENTATION AROUND THE DECEDENT' NECK. RIGOR MORTIS WAS PRESENT AND LIVIDITY WAS FIXED.**

**AFTER COMPLETING OUR SCENE INVESTIGATION, THE DECEDENT WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE CORONER' OFFICE.**

**LATER IN THE EVENING, I RECEIVED AN EMAIL FROM CORONER' SGT M RUIZ THAT MCSO DETECTIVES HAD CONTACTED BOBBY CARDOZA, THE DECEDENT' FATHER AND INFORMED HIM OF HIS SON' DEATH.**

### **CERTIFYING CAUSE OF DEATH:**

**DOCTOR MARK SUPER**

### **CAUSE OF DEATH:**

**ASPHYXIA BY STRANGULATION, INTERVAL - MINUTES. THE MANNER OF DEATH IS THAT OF HOMICIDE.**

### **FURTHER ACTION TAKEN:**

**THE DECEDENT'S IDENTIFICATION WAS CONFIRMED BY FINGERPRINT COMPARISON. X-RAYS OF THE DECEDENT WERE TAKEN AT THE REQUEST OF DOCTOR SUPER.**

**DOCTOR SUPER PERFORMED AN AUTOPSY ON THE DECEDENT AND ATTESTED THE DEATH CERTIFICATE WITH THE AFORE MENTIONED CAUSE AND MANNER OF DEATH. I ASSIGNED A CORONERS CASE NUMBER TO THE DEATH CERTIFICATE IN CAL-EDRS.**

**THE DECEDENT AND HIS PERSONAL PROPERTY WAS RELEASED TO EATON FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE OF MODESTO AS REQUESTED IN A FUNERAL HOME RELEASE SIGNED BY HIS FATHER, WHO HAD BEEN GIVEN WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION TO MAKE HIS SON' FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS BY ALLYSON PRAK, THE DECEDENT'**

**SPOUSE.**

**SUPPORTING CAUSE DOCUMENTATION:**

**MISCELLANEOUS PAPERWORK INCLUDING THE PRE – HOSPITAL CARE FORM, DEATH CERTIFICATE, AND FUNERAL HOME RELEASE HAVE BEEN SAVED TO THE DOCUMENT SECTION OF THE CASE FILE.**

**CASE STATUS:**

**CLOSED**

**ARGUELLES 5726/JDA 06-21-18**

**\*\*\* APPROVED BY S-8 M. RUIZ 8/17/18 \*\*\***